



Office of Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry
San Diego City Council
District 1

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A Continued Lack of Transparency and Accountability

San Diego— This afternoon, the City Council heard three informational items, two related to the fraud hotline and one informational item on the 101 Ash Street debacle. The first hotline report revealed that taxpayers are subsidizing trash pick-up for up to 16,000 single family short term vacation rentals. The second report uncovered a no-bid multi-million-dollar contract executed under the guise of a “piggy-back process.” And the continuing 101 Ash Street debacle was discussed in public after several Union Tribune articles and media reports.

The common themes were a lack of transparency and accountability at City Hall.

Regardless of the item, my questions for all of the items are:

1. What steps has the Mayor taken to comply?
2. When will the steps be completed?
3. What will the costs to the taxpayer be?
4. Will the Mayor report this, and all relevant information, in public to the full City Council?

I want to thank the City Auditor, the brave employees who utilize the fraud hotline system to report abuses, and the Union Tribune for alerting both the City Council and the public of these flagrant and deliberate violations of our policies, codes and potentially, our City Charter. These violations will be taken up at several Council committees, including at the Budget Committee, of which I chair. This is crucial in order to develop a culture of accountability and transparency, and to ensure that we spend taxpayer money wisely.

Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry represents San Diego City Council District 1, which includes the communities of Carmel Valley, Del Mar Heights, Del Mar Mesa, La Jolla, Pacific Highlands Ranch, Torrey Hills, Torrey Pines, and University City.

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